

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-5, 7-13, 28, and 29 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein.

Please add new Claims 30-34 as follows.

1. -29. (Cancelled)

30. (New) A data processing apparatus comprising:  
detection means for detecting whether or not input digital contents have been altered, on the basis of a result obtained by performing a predetermined operation process on at least a part of said digital contents; and  
embedding means for embedding a digital watermark into said digital contents, when it is detected by said detection means that said digital contents have been altered.

31. (New) A data processing apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the digital watermark embedded by said embedding means indicates information concerning transmission of said digital contents.

32. (New) A data processing method comprising:  
a detection step of detecting whether or not input digital contents have been altered, on the basis of a result obtained by performing a predetermined operation process on at least a part of said digital contents; and

an embedding step of embedding a digital watermark into said digital contents, when it is detected at said detection step that said digital contents have been altered.

33. (New) A data processing method according to Claim 32, wherein the digital watermark embedded at said embedding step indicates information concerning transmission of said digital contents.

34. (New) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program to achieve a data processing method comprising:

a detection step of detecting whether or not input digital contents have been altered, on the basis of a result obtained by performing a predetermined operation process on at least a part of said digital contents; and

an embedding step of embedding a digital watermark into said digital contents, when it is detected at said detection step that said digital contents have been altered.